



INDIGENOUS ACTION CANADA
[Indigenous Action Canada \(godaddysites.com\)](http://godaddysites.com)

June 4th, 2024

Office of Values and Ethics
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
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RE: Transport of nuclear materials through Indigenous lands

Greetings from Indigenous Action Canada;

Indigenous Action Canada (IAC) is committed to UNDRIP principles. IAC acts to encourage Canada to urgently respond to its obligations to respect and promote the inherent rights of Indigenous peoples which derive from their political, economic and social structures and from their cultures, spiritual traditions, histories and philosophies, especially their rights to their lands, territories and resources. We are writing to you with concern about Canadian values and ethics with respect to the transportation, handling and storage of nuclear materials and nuclear waste.

We are concerned about current practices with respect to transportation of nuclear waste and other nuclear products and hazardous materials to the facilities to and from Blind River, Port Hope and Chalk River.

We especially express concern about the incineration of radioactive materials, and storage processes, at Blind River. The transportation, processing and storage of nuclear waste and other nuclear materials through and near Indigenous territories raises concerns of dangerous and irresponsible risk management.

Indigenous Nations and communities have little or no capacity to deal with a radioactive spill, mistake or nuclear catastrophe. We do not support and protest the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission's current practices and licensing of these activities as being in total disregard of the

UNDRIP principles. There are issues with respect to lack of transparency, lack of informed consent, and lack of consultation on risk management and emergency preparedness.

There are reports of statistically high levels of cancer and other ill health effects in Indigenous communities located near nuclear facilities and yet there remains inadequate follow-up research with respect to incidences of these illnesses. Exposures to radioactive contaminants from CNSC licensed facilities continues without the consent of Indigenous peoples. The risks of exposure are compounded by the continued transportation of radioactive materials through Indigenous lands.

Yours Truly on behalf of Indigenous Action Canada,

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